

Development Management  
Development Plans / Cynlluniau Datblygu  
Pembrokeshire County Council / Cyngor Sir Penfro  
County Hall  
Haverfordwest  
SA61 1TP

13 December 2024

Dear Officers,

**With Reference:**

**Withybush Proposals for a Gypsy Traveller Site in Local Development Plan 2 Deposit 2 Plan.**

- Policy SP 4 which is a Strategic Policy on the provision of accommodation for Gypsy, Traveller and Show people sites and pitches**
- Policy GN 24 Gypsy and Traveller Site Allocations – here the Withybush allocation is listed. Reference GT/040/LDP2/01**
- The site on the Proposals Map, Settlement Name H-K. The site can be seen on Map 48 Top left of the page.**

**Respondents:**

**Group Response by David Llewelin, the chief petitioner as appointed by general verbal agreement of the 34 residents and several businesses operating out of the settlement of Rudbaxton SA62 4DB and the 92 residents of Crundale and District who supported the 2011 petition.**

Our community wishes to submit the following points to support the view that these 20 new pitches at Withybush are removed from the Proposed Policy.

**Plan is not appropriate**

*- Existing Occupants of Withybush Site have Objections.*

It became obvious to those who attended the the meeting convened by PCC planning at County Hall on October 16th 2024 that the current occupants of the Withybush site have had their concerns ignored by the officers. Many are unable to submit written responses and the council has not taken steps to provide them with adequate support to provide access to and record their opinion on this consultation process.

There was a clear objection as voiced by this minority group (the residents) at that Council meeting that they do not want to have Travellers placed next to their homes.

They were most insistent that they are by nature a Family based site and are not either Gypsy or Traveller and as such the siting of this proposal is inappropriate.

They have fears for their security and predict they will suffer from petty crime and theft.

They feel threatened by this imposition and this must surely violate their Human Right to a peaceful existence (Right to peaceful enjoyment of one's home, Article 8 of the ECHR protects the right to respect for one's private and family life, which includes the right to enjoy one's home peacefully).

*- Highway Dangers, unsuitability of access and volume and types of vehicular traffic.*

This proposal should not proceed because of the dangerous double bend at the western side of the site followed by a short straight which includes blind entrances into and out of the existing site followed by another blind 90 degree exit bend to the long straight at the eastern edge of the site to the airfield perimeter road.

There is at least one known accident outside the entrance to the Jones family site entrance (1st pitch on Western boundary of existing site) involving a child exiting the site at speed on his bicycle, hitting the front wing of a passing car and being thrown into the air before crashing through the rear windscreen of that vehicle.

The roadway is used as access from the A40 to the Withyhedge Landfill Refuse and Recycling site. It is unsuitable for the proposed development and already is subject to a dangerous volume of heavy goods vehicle movements.

At times the volume of lorries approaching the Landfill site requires the implementation of a queuing and holding system which can result in most of the long straight at the front of the proposed site being restricted both in width and visibility by parked lorries.

Traffic approaching the site position along this straight road in the direction of travel from Rudbaxton towards the A40 junction will more than often than not be travelling at high speed as they pass the proposed site location and this provides another hazard (speed then heavy braking) to any residents and in particular young children.

*- Dislocation from Services and Amenities*

The location is unsuitable because its location is geographically isolated from the facilities of Haverfordwest necessary to support modern family life. There is no pedestrian infrastructure or public transport to provide access to Doctor's Surgeries, Council Services, Schools and Supermarkets.

The interposing position of the Haverfordwest Airfield prevents the possibility of any direct pedestrian link to the Town.

As there are no pavements or cycle routes available, it is currently not unusual to see younger members of the Withybush Site having to walk the dangerous grass verges of the A40 on a route passing the Airport entrance and Texaco service station to access town.

**Plan will not deliver**

The scale and nature of the proposal is in opposition to the need of the existing families on the site to increase their pitch capacity as determined in Deposit plan Policy GN 24.

The proposed plan would remove from the families the existing amenity of the paddock to the immediate eastern boundary of existing pitches and not provide alternative provision.

We do not believe the proposed plan could be implemented because we dispute that the Council have vacant possession to develop on the site and we can attest that the field immediately on the eastern edge of the outer pitches has been used and maintained by the Withybush Site and in particular the Lovell and Maddock families for at least 40 years.

**Plan is unsound and how the Plan should be changed**

The current Proposed Plan fails to fulfil the requirements of the existing evidence base in favour of a proposal that is poorly researched and ill conceived in its attempt to meet a Welsh Government central policy target.

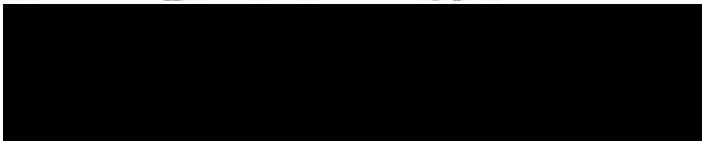
The policy should restrict any future capacity for additional pitches to be made exclusively available to members of families already living on the site.

With any new Traveller site the issue of geographic isolation should be addressed by the Council who should identify new sites contiguous with Haverfordwest and benefiting from access to both pedestrian and Public Transport.

The Council should identify sites where there is no conflict with other minority groups.

The Council should ensure any site has safe access from the highway and has recreational areas for young families and is not at a location involving a high volume of heavy goods movements.

Yours Sincerely,

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of Mr David Llewellyn.

Mr David Llewellyn, Great Rudbaxton Farm, Rudbaxton

For and on Behalf of the following families on page 4

PTO

For and on Behalf of the following families:

